

Dear Salida Ranger District, 3-7-2023

I attended the public meeting in Buena Vista on the proposed camping management and I have a comment/comments.

According to the heat map, there is heavy (red) camping impact in the Midway area of Ute Trail in the vicinity of the trailhead and parking lot.

I am a livestock permittee and my family has run cows in that area for generations. I have seen and dealt with the effects of increased camping and recreation, and the red area on the heat map matches what I have seen on the ground. People are making roads to campsites, to water tanks, and driving on pipeline routes. All unauthorized, and once established

are hard to close. The country there is very dry and fragile and I believe the damage that is done takes an especially long time to recover.

I would like to ask that you look at implementing designated dispersed vehicle camping on the Forest Service roads in that area. These include Forest Service roads 181, 181A, and 173. Also, to extend designated dispersed camping along the entire length of Forest Service road 185 and not stop it halfway along Aspen Ridge.

One other request. Would it be possible for the Forest Service to put highly visible signage on the roads in that area? To inform visitors

that the roads pass through
private land and for them to
be aware of where they are
and to respect private property.

Thank you for considering these
requests.

Respectfully,

Brady Everett